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Keswick Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

of the
Medical Officer of Health
John Patterson, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

FOR THE YEAR 1963

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Keswick Urban District Council

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Keswick Urban District Council

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
KESWICK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my 9th Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health to Keswick Urban District Council.

Figures for the year show an increase in both the numbers of births and deaths in the district.

The perinatal mortality rate of 31.5 is comparable with the national figure of 29.5. This rate is arrived at by computing the number of deaths under one week of age plus stillbirths, per thousand live and still births. It gives a more exact indication of the health of the mothers and the care they receive before and during confinement.

The welcome fall in deaths from cancer was cancelled out by an increase in deaths from coronary thrombosis, but no particular significance should be attached to this change.

I would record my thanks to Mr. Lusher and to the Clerk and staff for their help and co-operation during the year.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council I would express my appreciation of their help and consideration.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

JOHN PATTERSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

Statistical and Social Conditions of the Area

Area (acres) : 1,272.

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population :—4,600.
(mid-1962) — 4,590 ; (mid-1961) — 4,630 ; (mid-1960) — 4,600.

Number of inhabited houses : 1,654.

Rateable Value : £187,957.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate : £748.

The Tables of Vital Statistics are set out below, showing birth rates, death rates and rates for maternal and infantile mortality.

Crude birth and death rates are corrected by means of an Area Comparability Factor supplied each year by the Registrar General. They allow for varying age and sex distribution of the population in different areas and enable comparisons to be made with figures for other areas.

This year the factor for births is 1.12 and for deaths 0.83. The total live births were 63, an increase of 21 on last year. This corresponds to a birth rate of 13.7 per thousand of the population (15.3 corrected), compared with 9.0 in 1962. Seven of the births were illegitimate.

There were 3 deaths of infants under 1 year of age, giving an infantile mortality rate of 48.6. There were no still births.

There were no deaths due to pregnancy and childbirth, and no deaths from tuberculosis.

Deaths at all ages were 81, an increase of 9 on 1962.

Deaths from cancer fell from 18 in 1962 to 7 in 1963.

Vital Statistics

Population of the URBAN DISTRICT (mid-1963)—4,600.

LIVE BIRTHS—

		Males	Females	Total	Grand Total	Rate per 1,000 pop. uncorrected	Rate per 1,000 pop. corrected
1958	Legitimate	31	28	59			
	Illegitimate	3	1	4	63	13.5	13.5
1959	Legitimate	23	32	55			
	Illegitimate	1	3	4	59	12.8	12.8
1960	Legitimate	26	32	58			
	Illegitimate	0	0	0	58	12.6	12.6
1961	Legitimate	35	32	67			
	Illegitimate	2	3	5	72	15.6	15.6
1962	Legitimate	20	19	39			
	Illegitimate	1	2	3	42	9.0	9.0
1963	Legitimate	30	26	56			
	Illegitimate	3	4	7	63	13.7	15.3

STILL BIRTHS—

		Males	Females	Total	Total	Rate per 1,000 of Population
1958	Legitimate	2	0	2		
	Illegitimate	0	0	0	2	0.42
1959	Legitimate	0	0	0		
	Illegitimate	0	0	0	0	0.0
1960	Legitimate	0	2	2		
	Illegitimate	0	0	0	2	0.43
1961	Legitimate	0	0	0		
	Illegitimate	0	0	0	0	0.0
1962	Legitimate	1	1	2		
	Illegitimate	0	0	0	0	0.0
1963	Legitimate	0	0	0		
	Illegitimate	0	0	0	0	0.0

DEATHS—

Year	Males	Females	Total	Rate per 1,000 pop. uncorrected	Rate per 1,000 pop. corrected
1958	39	33	72	15.4	13.3
1959	50	42	92	19.7	16.9
1960	34	31	65	14.1	12.2
1961	41	45	86	18.5	15.9
1962	37	35	72	15.8	13.6
1963	40	41	81	17.6	14.6

MATERNAL MORTALITY—

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 births
1958	0	0.0
1959	0	0.0
1960	0	0.0
1961	0	0.0
1962	0	0.0
1963	0	0.0

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES—

	Deaths of infants under 1 yr.	All infants per 1,000 live births	Legitimate infants per 1,000 live legitimate births	Illegitimate infants per 1,000 live illegitimate births
1958 ...	2	32	32	0
1959 ...	1	17	18	0
1960 ...	1	17	17	0
1961 ...	2	28	28	0
1962 ...	0	0	0	0
1963 ...	3	48.6	53.5	0

TUBERCULOSIS DEATH RATE—

Year	Pulmonary T.B. Deaths	Other T.B. Deaths	Total T.B. Deaths	Pulmonary T.B. death rate per 1,000 pop.	Total T.B. death rate per 1,000 pop.
1958	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
1959	0	1	1	0.0	0.21
1960	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
1961	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
1962	1	0	1	0.2	0.2
1963	0	0	0	0.0	0.0

TABLE OF COMPARATIVE RATES (uncorrected)—

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
Birth Rate:							
England and Wales	16.1	16.4	16.5	17.1	17.4	18.0	18.2
County of Cumberland	17.9	17.6	17.7	18.0	17.6	18.3	17.7
Urban Districts of Cumb.	18.8	18.0	17.9	18.5	17.8	18.3	16.8
Keswick Urban	10.6	13.5	12.8	12.6	15.6	9.0	13.7
Death Rate:							
England and Wales	11.5	11.7	11.6	11.5	12.0	11.9	12.2
County of Cumberland	12.1	12.1	11.9	12.0	12.3	12.2	12.5
Urban Districts of Cumb.	12.2	12.6	12.6	12.1	12.6	12.3	11.7
Keswick Urban	13.4	15.4	19.7	14.1	18.5	15.8	17.6
Infantile Mortality:							
England and Wales	23.0	22.5	22.0	21.7	21.4	21.4	20.9
County of Cumberland	26.4	28.1	21.09	23.1	22.6	26.4	22.0
Urban Districts of Cumb.	25.8	35.1	23.2	29.7	22.4	20.4	15.0
Keswick Urban	0.0	31.8	17.0	17.0	28.0	0.0	48.6

Causes of Death in 1963

	Causes of Death	Male	Female
	All causes	40	41
1.	Tuberculosis, Respiratory	—	—
2	Tuberculosis, Other	—	—
3.	Syphilitic Disease	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	—	—
6.	Meningoco-coccal infections	—	—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—
8.	Measles	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	—	—
10.	Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	1	—
11.	,, ,, lung, bronchus ...	—	1
12.	,, ,, breast	—	1
13.	,, ,, uterus	—	—
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	1	2
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	1
16.	Diabetes	—	—
17.	Vascular Lesions of nervous system	5	6
18.	Coronary Disease, angina	13	11
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	—	1
20.	Other Heart Diseases	3	12
21.	Other circulatory diseases	2	2
22.	Influenza	—	—
23.	Pneumonia	2	—
24.	Bronchitis	2	—
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	—	—
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	—
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	—
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	—
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	1	—
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	4	3
33.	Motor Vehicle Accidents	—	—
34.	All Other Accidents	—	1
35.	Suicide	1	—
36.	Homicide and operations of war	—	—

Infantile Mortality

Deaths under one year showing varying causes and ages :—

Cause of death	Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	1—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1—3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	Total under 1 year
Hydrocephalus	1				1					1
Asphyxia Newborn	1				1					1
Inhalation Asphyxia		1			1					1
Totals	2	1			3					3

Senile Death Rate

Age at Death	Males	Females	Total
65-70 years ...	5	2	7
70-75 years ...	8	5	13
75-80 years ...	8	8	16
80-85 years ...	3	6	9
85-90 years ...	3	3	6
90-95 years ...	1	2	3
95-100 years ...	0	2	2
Total	28	28	56

Senile Death Rate 70% of total deaths (1962—72%).

Deaths from Violence

Cause		No. of Deaths	% of all causes	Rate per 1,000 of population
Suicide	1962	3	4.1	0.6
	1963	1	1.2	0.2
Road Traffic Accidents	1962	1	1.4	0.2
	1963	0	0.0	0.0
Other Violence	1962	1	1.4	0.2
	1963	1	1.2	0.2
Total	1962	5	7.0	1.0
	1963	2	2.1	0.4

Deaths from Cancer

System	Primary organ site of disease	Males	Females
Alimentary	Stomach	1	0
	Colon	0	1
	Pancreas	1	0
Glandular	Breast	0	1
Respiratory	Lung	0	1
Circulatory	Blood (Leukaemia)	0	1
Other Sites		0	1
	Total	2	5

Age at Death	Males	Females	Total
Between 60 and 70 years	0	3	3
Between 70 and 80 years	1	0	1
80 years and upwards	1	2	3
Totals	2	5	7

Cancer Death Rate 1.5 per 1,000 population (1962—4.0 per 1,000 population).

Approximately 1 death in 11 was due to Cancer.

Infectious Diseases

The total number of cases of infectious disease notified in 1963 was 2, both tuberculosis, in males.

There were no notifications or deaths from Diphtheria, Poliomyelitis, Typhoid Fever, Puerperal Pynexia, or Food Poisoning.

Cases on the Tuberculosis Register

	Males	Females	Totals
Pulmonary ...	13	5	18
Non-Pulmonary ...	1	4	5
All Cases ...	14	9	23

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus.

Immunisation against these diseases is usually combined by means of a triple vaccine, and during the year 54 babies completed a full course of three injections. Booster doses were given to 31 infants.

Poliomyelitis.

The figures show those having had 2 injections of Salk Vaccine, those having completed a course of three, and a selected age group of all school children thought to be at special risk beween the ages of 6 and 12 years. All protection now is by means of the Sabin oral vaccine.

B.C.G. Tuberculosis.

Mantoux skin testing and B.C.G. vaccination was continued in 1963, the age group being those born in 1949. The table gives detailed figures. 84 children were tested and 14 (16.6%) were found to be positive reactors.

The remaining 70 negative reactors were given B.C.G. vaccination. This figure of 16.6% for positive reactors shows a welcome decrease and in keeping with the average for the county as a whole.

Smallpox.

A total of 13 vaccinations were carried out during the year, the majority being in infants.

The vaccination of adults will be performed at the County Council clinic upon request.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination, Year 1963

Year of Birth	Pre 1947	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	Total
Age	over 16	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	under 1	
No. who have completed a primary course of 2 injections at 31/12/63.	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	5
No. who have completed a full course of 3 injections at 31/12/63.	28	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	1	2	—	—	3	7	12	17	31	5	109
No. who have completed a full course of 4 injections at 31/12/63.	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	2	—	1	4	—	1	2	—	1	—	—	15

Results of Mantoux Testing and B.C.G. Vaccination in East Cumberland to 31-12-63 of Children born in 1949.

Children born 1949 and attending schools in :—	No. of Children on roll	No. of consents for treatment	Mantoux tested	Absent	No. of children :— Found Negative	Given B.C.G. Vaccination	Found Positive	%	No. referred to chest clinic for large film and found to be Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Already known cases
Alston R.D.C. ...	31	27	25	2	22	22	3	12.0	3	—	—
Border R.D.C. ...	418	370	316	54	286	286	30	9.4	30	—	—
Wigton R.D.C. ...	310	263	240	23	224	224	16	6.6	16	—	—
Keswick U.D.C. ...	109	94	84	10	70	70	14	16.6	14	—	—
Penrith R.D.C. ...	380	287	217	70	200	200	17	7.8	17	—	—
Total ...	1248	1041	882	159	802	802	80	9.0	80	—	—

Keswick Urban District Council

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
KESWICK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting for your consideration my 13th Annual Report on public health work carried out in my department, during the year ended 31st December, 1963.

I would like to record my appreciation of the co-operation which I have received from my colleagues on the staff of the Council and to Members of the Council I would offer my thanks for their consideration and support.

I am,
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your Obedient Servant,
RALPH LUSHER,
Public Health Inspector & Surveyor to the Council.

General Provision of Health Services in the Area

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

1. Part-time Medical Officer of Health.
2. One Public Health Inspector, Mr. Ralph Lusher, M.A.P.H.I., M.Inst.H.E., being also the Surveyor and Water Engineer.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

WATER SUPPLY

The supply from the ghylls was ample at all times and no difficulty was experienced in maintaining supplies.

The Consulting Engineers continued their work in the preparation of a scheme to be undertaken jointly with the West Cumberland Water Board, for the improvement of the water supplies in Keswick and adjoining parishes.

34 samples of water were submitted for analysis during the year, 32 of which were regarded by the analyst as highly satisfactory.

All houses in the district now have a water supply inside the house.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

A contract was entered into during the year with Messrs. F. Parkinson, Ltd., of Blackpool, for the reconstruction and improvement of the sewage works at an estimated cost of £87,000. This work is being supervised by the County Engineer, acting as Consulting Engineer to the Council.

The sewers generally in the district are adequate and give very little trouble. The sewers are arranged on a combined system with no separate storm water drains. During times of storm the main sewers are heavily surcharged with surface water and as more development takes place it will become necessary either to enlarge the trunk sewers or to take steps to reduce the amount of surface water entering them.

Scavenging and Removal of Refuse

Three Karrier Bantam refuse wagons are employed but two of these are used part time on other work.

Very few complaints are received and this service is generally satisfactory.

Refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping and a full time attendant is in charge of the refuse tip. A small bulldozer is provided and this is a great help in securing better compaction and more effective covering of the refuse.

The salvage of paper and cardboard was continued during the year and comparative figures of sales in the past five years are as follows :—

1959	152 tons sold for £968.
1960	171 tons sold for £1,196.
1961	175 tons sold for £1,213.
1962	156 tons sold for £963.
1963	162 tons sold for £973.

In addition, scrap materials were sold to the value of £57.

Sanitary Inspection of the District

Summary of Inspections during the year :—

Premises inspected during the year	220
Nuisances or defects discovered	80
do. do. remedied after informal action ...	62
do. do. remedied after statutory notice ...	0
Housing Inspections under Public Health or Housing Acts ...	150
Factory Inspections	8

A total of 46 factories are entered in the Factories Register, 8 inspections were made of these premises during the year.

Shops Act, 1950

Periodic inspections were made during the year.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

The Council employees undertake treatment as recommended. The sewers were treated several times during the year and the refuse tip was treated 18 time. Treatments were also carried out at 10 private houses.

Housing Appendix

STATISTICS

1.—Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year :—

1.	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	27
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	71
2.	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932)	0
	(b)	Number of Inspections made for the purpose ...	0
3.		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	0
4.		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	4

2.—Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices : Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 3

Caravan Sites

There are three licensed caravan sites in the district and these were inspected on many occasions.

The Derwentwater Caravan Site which is being developed by the Council continued to operate successfully and further tree planting and road improvement works were carried out.

CAMPING SITE

The Council established a camping site on the edge of Derwentwater. About £8,000 was spent on the erection of the sanitary block, warden's bungalow, roads and water supply. The first season was very successful and the camp was full on many occasions. In the design of the sanitary block the Council have set a high standard with the provision of showers, hot water, drying rooms, laundry, etc., and these facilities are much appreciated by the campers.

Housing

4 privately owned houses were built in 1963.

Work on the modernisation of 9 old cottages in Wickams Court and 2 cottages in Police Court Yard was completed. These houses are situated in the centre of the town and there is a large demand for this type of accommodation.

PROPOSED FLATS AT THE HEADLANDS

A scheme was submitted to the Council for the building of 42 Flats on disused allotments at The Headlands. The scheme was approved and the County Architect was asked to undertake the design of the buildings.

DERWENT CLOSE FLATLETS

The 20 aged person flatlets at Derwent Close continued to serve a very useful purpose.

The Council own a total of 366 houses, of which 235 are post war houses.

Improvement Grants

21 applications were received for Improvement Grants and Grants were made in all cases. All the applications were in respect of owner occupied premises.

This is a rise of 8 applications over last year's figure.

A good deal of publicity was again given to the scheme and a number of landlords were interviewed but as the law stands at present it would appear that there is little incentive for a landlord to carry out improvement works to tenanted property and on the other hand the local authority have no power to insist on these improvements.

Rent Act, 1957

No applications were received for Certificates of Disrepair and no action was taken by the Council under this Act.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

MILK AND DAIRIES

14 milk samples were submitted to the analyst.

Under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960, the duty to licence dealers for bottling or dealing in milk of any special designation was transferred to County Councils.

Under a local arrangement made in this County, the inspection work will still be carried out by the Local Public Health Inspectors and 20 such inspections were made during the year.

Structural repairs were required at one Dairy and these works were satisfactorily completed.

Meat and Other Foods

There are no slaughter houses in the Urban District, all meat is transported from abattoirs outside the district.

The following is a brief summary of food stuffs for which certificates of unsoundness were issued by the public Health Inspector :—

343 lbs. cooked meat, 26 lbs. beef, 29 lbs. bacon, 1 chicken and 112 tins of various foods. These food stuffs were removed by the refuse collectors and buried at the refuse tip.

BAKEHOUSES—There are five in existence. As usual all these premises were periodically inspected.

ICE CREAM ——	Registered premises for manufacture or sale ...	31
	Registered premises for sale only	29

FOOD (Preparation and Manufacture) Premises.

Registered premises for the preparation and manufacture of foods	11

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS

The work of inspection of food premises continued during the year, and the attention of owners was draw to unsatisfactory conditions in 3 cases. At 2 of these premises the necessary improvements were made.

Ferguson Bros. (Printers) Ltd., Keswick